



1st Barton Scout Group 2022 AGM Report

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Group Executive Committee Members

Group Scout Leader:	Gavin Ions
Group Chair:	Stuart Veitch
Group Treasurer:	Jenny Veitch
Group Secretary:	Al Deavin
Beavers:	Catherine Millar
Beavers:	Jon McCourt
Cubs:	Christine Elliott
Cubs:	Chris Gibson
Cubs:	Bex Brookes
Scouts:	Anthony Etheridge
Scouts:	Karen Marshall
Scouts:	Kevin Lilley
Scouts:	Mark Hornby
Scouts:	Sam Brookes
Parent representative:	Karen Taggart
Parent representative:	Nick Downing
Parent representative:	Jeanette Downing
Parent representative:	Rachel Vart

Group Scout Leader Report

Writing one of these reports after a relatively normal year is brand new to me in my time as GSL, but I'm glad to not have to dwell too long on the pandemic as the worst of it recedes into distant memory. The end of 2021 did see us briefly return to online-only scouting but since emerging from those rules we have been able to meet face to face (and indoors) ever since, albeit with a bit of mask wearing at the start of 2022. There has been definite feeling as each section got back outdoors in the spring that we were back to doing what we do best.

It's been great to see that we have not felt the same impact from the pandemic that some other groups around the country have experienced and that our numbers across all sections remain stable. And by stable I mean full. 27 Beavers, 24 Cubs and 26 Scouts. So very full indeed. Taken at face value that feels like a pretty happy position to be in but we continue to be in the uncomfortable position that if all the current Beavers and Cubs stay with us into Scouts we will have 51 Scouts at this point in 4 years. Again, that sounds like success, but once you've got a couple of dozen 10-14 year olds in the hall it can feel a pretty claustrophobic space. We'll have to look at our options if that day ever comes, but I wouldn't be doing my job if I didn't keep highlighting this possible future issue.

A huge success of 2022 has been the reemergence of our partner Explorer unit, Half Moon. This time last year we were preparing for a proper relaunch in the hope we could keep enough interest that the unit would start to look like an attractive and viable option for our older Scouts. We were sure that once the unit was visible and our Explorers were working as Young Leaders across our sections then our young people would aspire to join them when the time came. I'm happy to say that this seems to have been successful and we currently have 11 Explorers who are taking the lead in planning their own programme, with many of them continuing to make a hugely valued contribution to the leadership teams in all our sections.

Speaking of leadership teams, our numbers remain steady across the sections and we are hoping to add some new and returning faces to the section leadership lineups in the new year. We have had one leader stand down this year. Darren has hung up his necker after over 10 years of service with the group as a leader in Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. We've leant on his ability to build and move things many times over those years and there are many bits of kit he has built that will outlast us all. He won't be escaping completely though as he has offered to continue with the upkeep of the field in Melsonby so the grass is slightly below Beaver height in the summer. Thanks Darren. I'll think of you every time I drop the Gang Show ramp on my toes.

Our return to family camping this year went off really well, with great attendance and even better weather. It was a real team effort to run all of the activities from scratch using only our existing equipment and our years of experience. Special mentions go to Vicky for leading the catering and Sam for making sure everything got to the right place at the right time.

I suppose this wouldn't be a true review of the year if I didn't mention the event that has loomed so large over our calendar for months; Gang Show. I wrote more than enough about my doubts about running the show in the programme (if you didn't come to the show and get a programme you can have one free with every DVD purchase) but I'm happy to be able to say that now the dust has settled I am sure we made the right decision. This was another triumph of teamwork with no weak links in the chain we're rightly proud of the work our young people put into the rehearsals and performances but I'm also proud of the team who made this happen.

Plans for next year are starting to fall into place already. It's not a Gang Show year, so you get a break from the rehearsal schedule, but that does open up our summer and winter terms for more exciting outdoors things.

In addition to continuing with the great work running the programmes in the Beaver colony, Cub pack, Scout troop and Explorer unit I am now in a position to reveal (probably to the shock of a few people) that we are in

the early stages of planning the opening of a Squirrel drey. Squirrels is the newest section in scouting, catering for young people aged 4-6. The first (and biggest) obstacle was going to be finding adults to run the section but I am pleased to say that at least one (unnamed) person has not run for the hills at the mention of this idea and that other names are being added to the list of volunteers.

More to follow on that in the coming months, but if you have a child aged 4-6 who you were waiting to add to our membership list, now might be the time to do that. I will also add that we'll always welcome offers of help with this new section as we would do with any section. You don't have to wear a uniform unless you want to. You don't have to come every week unless you can. I believe that the majority of our adult volunteers do this because it's genuinely fun and you're welcome to talk to any of us to find out what we get from this, and if it doesn't scare you off, please come and join us.

Gavin

Beavers Report



did den building and fire lighting and knots. The Beavers tried their hand at Semaphore and managed to send messages to each other. We also celebrated Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum jubilee.

We had a great time at the family camp at Dilston!!

The Autumn term, has been a busy one, with the Gang Show and Remembrance Parade, and paying tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II.



This year the Beavers have been very busy working towards their Chief Scout's Bronze Award. We started the year in the hall and covered numerous badge requirements, including First Aid and Cooking; not to mention a Night at the Movies.

We are ending the term with a Xmas party and Santa Sleepover; the first for a couple of years.

Jon and Catherine



The summer term saw us move back to the field to enjoy the weather! We

Cubs Report

There are currently 25 members in the Cub section, with some very eager beavers on the way!! We're very grateful to have such a strong team helping us every step along the way including our regular parent helpers and our fantastic Explorers, Robbie & Eva.



Over the past year we have done various activities, from Scouting skills and backwoods cooking, to water fights, escape room night and a visit from Richmondshire Climate Action.

We continue to encourage Cubs and helpers to suggest their own ideas for our programme which has led to a night of just games, along with indoor caving! This has helped us to award 4 Silver Awards this year!

A big thank you to all the Cubs and parents for remaining enthusiastic and supportive throughout this busy Gang Show year! We are so proud of all our Cubs who took part and we're sure you are too.



We are again going to deliver a Christmas sleepover as we know nights away are something which have been in short supply this year, but we have plans to fix this in the coming year!

Bex, Chris and Caitie

Scouts

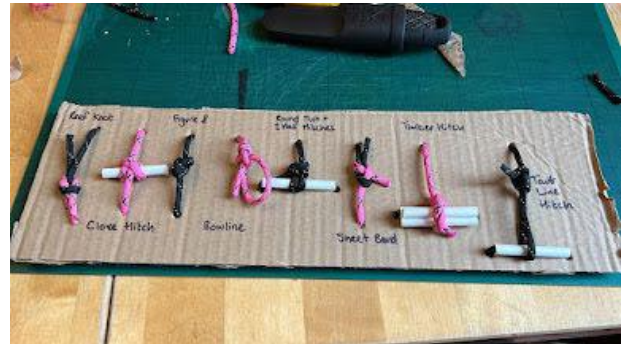
It's only when you sit down and write an annual report that you truly realise how much we get up to in scouts. We don't want to just give you a bullet point list because that wouldn't do justice to the variety and breadth of activities.

The first week after the last AGM saw us playing with cameras in the dark down at the field. This turned into a wonderful experience, with all the scouts getting involved in the creation of some amazing light art.



And the week before this AGM we played politicians with a really interactive evening learning about how laws are created and how politicians vote. Let's just say that we had some interesting discussions, and found out a lot more about the running of our country.

What you might think of as the more traditional scouting activities were covered, including scouts making their very own knot board



Cooking in the backwoods, learning how to put tents up (and down) in the correct way.

Designing boats and racing them down the beck in Barton and dropping eggs from great height to see if we can make them survive



Completing 70 challenges in 70 minutes, and doing our bit for the local community with an evenings gardening in the village.



One activity was over a year in the making, and saw the scouts attempting to defuse a bomb!



All these activities would not be possible without the active support of our Young Leaders who are growing into an integral part of the leadership team.

Attendance throughout the last year has been consistently high, and we've welcomed eight new scouts into the troop. We've also managed to continue the momentum with explorers with eight scouts going on to Half Moon Explorers.

The Leaders aim to make scouting fun, varied and stimulating. We don't often get chance to look back, but reading this report we hope we have achieved our aim and look forward to the adventures yet to come.

Anthony, Gavin, Karen, Kevin, Mark and Rich

Summary of Accounts 2021/22

1st Barton Scout Group Receipts and payments account

For the year from	Year start date		Year end date	
	01/10/2021	To	30/09/2022	

Receipts and payments

	2021-22 £	2020-21 £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income	£ 9,094.58	£ 4,380.20
Grants	£ -	£ -
Events	£ 4,645.98	£ 427.83
Investment income	£ -	£ -
Total receipts	£ 13,740.56	£ 4,808.03

Receipts and payments

	2021-22 £	2020-21 £
Payments		
Charitable Payments	£ 10,291.18	£ 6,871.94
Events	£ 5,116.38	£ -
Total Payments	£ 15,407.56	£ 6,871.94
Net of receipts/(payments)	£ (1,667.00)	£ (2,063.91)
Cash funds last year end	7,456	
Cash funds this year end	£ 5,789.47	£ (2,063.91)